progress, seating anti-Administration delegates from East Baton Rouge. The committee asked until evening to complete their deliberations, which was granted, and the

HE CLAIMS TO HAVE BEEN BOOKKEEPER TO THE

LOTOS CLUB.

POUGHKEEPSIE, Dec. 19 .- The case of J. H.

Quinn, who was arrested yesterday morning, charged

with attempting to burn the Poughkeepsie Hotel, is a

singular one. The fire would not have been discovered

had it not been for a game of draw poker which was going on in one of the rooms. Quinn is not only well

known here as a graduate of the High School, but he

claims he has been bookkeeper of the Lotos Club, New-

York, and that he carries letters of recommendations from the president of the club. He seemed to exhibit

STRIFE BETWEEN MILLIONNAIRES.

AN EXCITING STRUGGLE FOR THE CONTROL OF THE

OPHIR MINING COMPANY.

Mining Company's election to-day there was a bitterly contested fight between Mr. Flood, who held control,

and Senator Sharon, who was anxious to possess it. The

election was the most exciting since the great Hale and

Norcross light in 1868, when the shares of that company rose to \$8,000. The capital stock of the Ophir Company

is \$10,800,000, in shares of \$100 each. The real fight

was to obtain possession of the milling ore, in which all

Up to this morning the general belief was that Scuator tharon would capture the mine. This was that Scuator

AN INTERESTING RUMOR DENIED.

THE WILLIMANTIC THREAD MILLS AND PULLMAN

Boston, Dec. 19 .- A dispatch from Williman-

tic, Conn., reports that the Williamntic Thread Company, employing over 1,000 hands, contemplates reducing its op-

rations owing to dull times and that a proposition is

under consideration to sell its great No. 4 mill, recently pur-

inder consucration to sen agrees 3.5. and, recently purchased, to the Pullman Car Company for its Eastern branch works. Colonel Barrow, now an official of the Pulman Car Company, was until recently president of the Willimantic corporation. Later advices, however, deny the story, and say that the mills are not running entirely full on account of a scarcity of water.

POLITICAL DISCORD IN VIRGINIA.

RICHMOND, Dec. 19 .- In the State Senate to-

day the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elec-tions, declaring the Governor's writs for special elections

in the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-seventh, Thirty-first and

Thirty-third Senatorial Districts null and vold, and direct

ing the president pro tem. of the Senate to issue his writs

forthwith for such elections, was adopted by a strict party

forthwith for such elections, was anopted by a stree party vote—ayes, 23; noes, 11. The elections are to fill the vacancies caused by Mesars. Jones, Stevens, Martin and Rue accepting Federal and State offices, thereby forfelt-ing their positions as senators, which the Governor claimed the right to fill. Elections had been held under his writs, but the Democrats generally refrained from vot-

A CRIMINAL ASSAULT IN A HOTEL.

Joliet, Ill., Dec. 19 .- George Freestune, age

twenty-three, one of the boarders of the Auburn House,

entered the room of the head cook, Jane Haycock, last night.

bound her head to prevent her screaming, and criminally

assaulted her. The woman gave an alarm, as he stole away,

and Freestune returned and cut her throat with a knife and

fled. He was arrested while his hands were still covered with the blood of his victim. He afterward confessed the deed and declared that he was intoxicated at the time. The woman is unconscious and will probably die.

THE BURIAL OF PROFESSOR SOPHOCLES.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 19.-The funeral of Proessor Sophocles, late University Professor of Greek in

Harvard College, was held this afternoon, Rev. Dr. Pea-

body officiating. Several members of the Faculty and a

HIGHWAY ROBBERIES IN OREGON.

Huntington, Oregon, reports a number of highway rob-

Huntington, Oregon, reports a soven men. At the point of the pistol, they robbed J. Tyfer of eash and drafts to the amount of \$15,000, and the paymaster of the Railroad Construction Company of \$12,000. Other persons were relieved of sums ranging in amount from \$200 to \$500.

CAR-SHOPS.

FRANCISCO, Dec. 19 .- At the Ophir

convention took a recess.

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WAI TO ON THE SPEAKER.

THE BELMONT-COX FIGHT-SOME PROBABLE AS-SIGNMENTS-MORRISON'S INFLUENCE EXPLAINED. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 19.—The postponement of the beginning of the holiday recess until Monday was, of course, occasioned by the inability of Speaker Carlisle to complete and announce his committees before that date. According to the best information that can be obtained, a majority of the important chairmanships, as well as of the assignments to subordinate places on all the leading committees, are in about as much uncertainty to-night as they were two weeks ago. When the Democrats got control of the House in 1875 by a majority of 70, Speaker Kerr was able to prepare and announce his committees in a fortnight. Fully three weeks will be consumed by Speaker Carlisle and his premier in the same task.

The chairmanship of Foreign Affairs is still in doubt. It is understood that August Belmont has been exerting all his powerful influence in favor of the promotion of his son, and there is some reason to believe that the only way out of difficulty that the Speaker has been able thus far to discover is to throw both Mr. Cox and Mr. Belmont overboard and appoint somebody else. While this may be done, it should be said that to-night the chances are rather in of favor of

THE WAYS AND MEANS.

There is no longer any doubt that Mr. Blackburn will be appointed on the Ways and Means Committee, as will also Abraham S. Hewitt, Hurd, of Ohio, Buckner, of Missouri, and probably Hancock, of Texas, Blount or Hammond, of Georgia, and Herbert, of Alabama.

Now that the Committee on Education and Labor has been cut in two, Mr. Willis, of Kentucky, it is said, will refuse to accept the chairmauship, and will probably be given a place on the Appropriation Committee, Harsh criticisms of Colonel Morrison's course in relation to the committees continue, and one of his friends to-day said that he is greatly worried by them. Respecting the Speaker's apparent unwillingness to allow Colonel Morrison to promote his own ambition for the Presidency, while giving advice as to the committees, a wellinformed politician to-night observed: "The fact is that Carlisle has not felt friendly toward McDonald since Senator Voorhees brought the news to Washington, during the centest for the Speakership that McDonald was wholly indifferent as to who should win and was not disposed to exert any influence in favor of Carlisle. That made the Kentucky candidate very angry, and he is now disposed to reciprocate all of McDonald's reported indifference and repay him with interest. This explains why he is so 'thick' with Morrison and so ready to follow his advice." FRESH GRIEVANCE AGAINST MR. RANDALL.

The opponents of Mr. Randall have a fresh grievance against him. They declare that, not satisfied with the chairmanship of Appropriations for himself, he is now insisting that one or two other Pennsylvania men shall be given important chairmanships and others be appointed to good places, which ought to be given to loyal friends of the Speaker from the West and the South. "Mr. Randall has altogether

and the South. "Mr. Randall has altogether too much to say for a man who received only fifty votes out of nearly 200," said an impatient Southern Democratic Congressman to-night. And so the signs and sounds of discord multiply on every hand, and the Speaker is driven to the verge of distraction.

Mr. Hammond, of Georgia, it is reported, does not desure the chairmauship of Elections, which is equivalent to a demand on his part for something better, and there are few better places within the Speaker's gift. Mr. Springer wants that place, and it is understood be caused the Speaker to be informed of his desire. But Mr. Springer's course during the Speakership contest proveked a good deal of dissatisfaction among the Carlisie men who will naturally object to his receiving much consideration.

It is remarked respecting Mr. Hurd's assignment to a prominent place on Ways and Menns that he is the solitary Democratic Representative from Ohio who denounced and opposed the tariff plank in the Ohio platform. But then he is for "a tariff for revenue only," and that the Western and Sontiern Democrats generally declare was the doctrine laid down and accepted in the election of John G. Carlisie.

Committee to the server of Ohio is given as authority.

COMMITTED TO TARIFF REVISION.

Governor Foster, of Ohio, is given as authority for the statement that, in a conversation he had with Speaker Carlisle after his election, the Speaker openly avowed his intention to appoint committees that would be in favor of what he called "a proper revision of the tariff laws"-which probably means a Kentucky revision -that he looked upon his election as a triumph of the ideas he has so long advocated, and that it would be impossible for him honestly to regard it in any other light, or constitute the committees on any other plan.

## NEW COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE,

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ACTION UPON REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEE ON RULES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 .- Several reports brought in by the House Committee on Rules to-day, provoked considerable debate, and two of them went over until to-morrow. Despite a vigorous and rather pathetic speech by Mr. Reagan, who expects to be made chairman of the Commerce Committee, the House agreed by a vote of 134 to 61 to authorize a select committee on American Shipping. It is whispered to-night that a herculean effort is to be made to induce S. S. Cox to accept the chairmanship of this committee, so as to permit the elevation of Perry Belmont to a chairmanship once held by John C. Calhoun when he was no older than Mr. Belmont. An amendment by Mr. Reed to continue the select committee on the alcoholic liquor traffic gave Mr. Vance, of North Carolina, an opportunity to make a ringing temperance speech, which was loudly applauded by the Republican side, where the Southern Democratic temperance advocate has a seat. It also gave Mr. Mills a chance to let off some rhetorical sky-rockets against "sumptuary laws," coupled with an ominous declaration that he proposed to have the yeas and nays called in order to "put on record" the names of the rash Congressmen who dared to vote for such a committee. Rather to his surprise nearly every Republican seconded his demand for a recorded vote, which showed 143 in favor of the committee and only 88 against it.

The proposition to divide the Committee on Edu cation and Labor and raise a new standing committee on labor was adopted against the earnest protest of Mr. Willis, of Kentucky, who expects to protest of Mr. Willis, of Kentucky, who expects to be chairman of Education and Labor and naturally objects to having it shorn by any portion of its dignity. He said that with both subjects under its jurisdiction the committee is not occupied more than one-third of the time. An excitable new member named O'Neill, of Missouri, advocated the new committee on labor on the ground that the subjects of education and labor bear not the slightest relation to each other. Moreover Mr. O'Neill wants to dignify labor and clevate the working man by means of a House committee. It may be, too, that he thinks that an easier way than any other to secure a chairmanship.

ne thinks that an easier way than any other to secure a chairmanship.

The proposition to divide the duties of the Committee on Commerce and raise a new standing committee on rivers and harbors was postponed until to-morrow, as was a resolution, reported by General Keifer, without recommendation, for a select committee on woman suffrage. General Keifer suggested that for his part he favored such a committee.

MR. SKINNER SWORN IN THE HOUSE. THE REPUBLICANS DECLINE TO FOLLOW MR

KEIFER'S LEAD. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] WASHINGTON, Dec. 19 .- Probably never before did a man who set himself up as a leader of his

been trying to convince Messrs. Ranney, Hiscock, Reed and other good lawyers that the Republicans ought to contest the admission of Mr. Skinner, of North Carolina, when he should come before the House, bearing his credentials from the Governor of that State. Repeated efforts were made to show him that his position was indefensible, contrary to Republican doctrine, and one which no Republican could support. All such efforts were vain and to day when General Scales asked that his colleague be sworn General Keifer objected and offered a resolation, with a long preamble, to refer the whole

matter to the Elections Committee. This he supported in a long speech, to which General Scales made an equally long reply. Mr. Hiscock offered a substitute for the Keifer resolution, which directed that Mr. Skinner be sworn and that the legal question as to whether or not he was elected from the proper district, be referred to the Elections Committee with instructions to report thereon at the earliest time practicable. Mr. Hiscock supported his substitute in an energetic speech. Mr. Reed made a capital speech on the same side, and Mr. Belford declared that the Keifer proposition was a dangerous one. By this time General Keifer began to realize the blunder he had made, and he offered to withdraw his objection and made, and ne offered to withdraw his objection and let Mr. Skinner be sworn, provided his resolution, minus the preamble, could afterward be referred to the Elections Committee—carrying the whole case with it. This offer the Democrats were not only willing, but anxious to accept, for they immediately saw that it would afford the Elections Committee a fair pretext to delay a report until the Committee a fair pretext to delay a report until the expiring hours of the XLVIIIth Congress. Mr. Hiscock saw it, too, and offered a vigorous protest, in which he exposed the effect, if not the purpose, of the Keyley presentation.

of the Keifer proposition. General Keifer continued to insist on his resolu-General Keifer continued to insist on his resolution and to protest against the Hiscock proposition,
which however, was adopted on a division by a vote
of 107 to 96. The yeas and nays were ordered and
the substitute again carried—117 to 108. General
Keifer voted in the negative and was the only Republican who did so. About 35 Democrats voted
with the Republicans in the affirmative. General
Keifer was thoroughly discomfiled. The result has
a practical bearing on another case, which will soon
arise, and it is important that the House shall fairly
and squarely determine what course it will parsue.
The death of Mr. Haskell causes a vacancy in the
old Hd Kansas District. Since he was elected the and squarely determine what course it will pursue. The death of Mr. Haskell causes a vacancy in the old Hd Kansas District. Since he was elected the State has been re-districted and the Hd District comprises different territory from that covered by the old district. Should the vacancy caused by Mr. Haskell's death be filled by an election in the old district or in the new one? becomes a practical question which will be answered in the affirmative or negative according as the House decides whether Mr. Skinner's election in the new Ist District of North Carolina was legal or illegal. By the adoption of Mr. Hiscock's resolution the Elections Committee is required to bring in an early report, and the House obliged to make an early decision, which will remove all doubt as to the Kansas vacancy.

With a single exception all the precedents point to a decision adverse to Mr. Skinner, but he is a Demo-crat and the House is Democratic by sixty majority.

# A WEDDING ENGAGEMENT BROKEN.

MISS WILLIAMS, OF BALTIMORE, SHOWS A ROMAN-TIC CONSIDERATION. [BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIPUNE.]

BALTIMORE, Dec. 19 .- It was formally anunced to-day that the engagement between Miss Rebecca Williams, of this city, and Heary Herbert, M. P., of England, had been formally broken of. The news created a profound scusation in social circles, and will doubtess have the same effect elsewhere. Few social matters evel and its story is interesting.

Last spring Mr. Herbert visited Baltimore. He was member of one of the oldest and re-pected of the English families, a member of Parliament, and the proprietor of the large Muckross estate in Ireland, which contains within its boundaries the famous Lakes of Klilarney. He met Miss Williams, daughter of George Hawkins Williams, Prestdent of the State Senate, an helress and a reigning belle, at a german last spring. He was impressed with her charms from the first, and paid her much attention, finally sucing for her hand with success. was appounced, and produced a decided sensation. The wedding day was appointed for November 11, it being de cided to have the ceremony performed at St. Paul's Pro-testant Episcopal Church in this city. Elaborate prepara-tions were made, and over one thousand invitations had been sent out.

Unfortunately, a few days prior to that day, Miss

been sent out.

Unfortunately, a few days prior to that day, Miss Williams, while out riding, was thrown from her horse and dangerously injured. The weading was postponed muli January, in hopes of the lady's recovery by that time. This, however, caused no end of rumors, it being intimated in some quarters that the marriage had been abandoned by Mr. Herbert on account of the amount of dowry. This statement was extensively published, and carsed no end of unfavorable comment. Mr. Herbert returned from abroad Sanday, and yesterday had an audience with Miss. Williams, who is still confined to her room, with but slight chances of recovery.

Here, at her request, and fully appreciating her true condition, she insisted that the engagement be broken off, refusing, in her regard for her afflanced, to allow him to be tied down to an invalid. Mr. Herbert was seen this evening and says it is the hardest blow or his life. He had returned fully expecting to wed the woman of his choice. He have has determined to her in Haltimore. He will be near to her at least. He brands as infamous and false all reports of his defering with her father regarding the marriage settlement, and says he was never blackguarded by a paper in his whole life until he came to America.

## LOOKING FOR ARTHUR DELEGATES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] Washington, Dec. 19 .- A prominent Tensessee Republican said to-day that Congressman Houk, of that State, is making strong efforts to convince Republi. cans there that he represents the policy and wishes of the Administration in political matters generally and especially in certain managuves in which he is said to be engaged, looking to the election of Arthur delegates to the National Convention from the Congressional districts of National Convention from the Congressional districts of Tennessee. This Republican said that in his opinion, as well as in the judgment of many other Republicans, the proceedings of Congressman Houk are not sanctioned by the President and that they will be more likely to injure than to promote his prospects. He thinks, however, that the Congressman has succeeded in making some people believe that his efforts are put forth with the knowledge and approval of President Arthur, and not on his own motion and in order to enhance his own political consequence in Tennessee. nce in Tennessee.

## SUDDEN DEATH IN A HOTEL,

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] New-Haven, Dec. 19,-Dana B. Seaver, travelling salesman for B. W. Allen & Co., of New-York City, wholesale liquor merchants, died suddenly of heart dis ease at the Grand Union Hotel in this city to-day. He was in apparent good health yesterday. This morning Mr. Seaver arose and proceeded from his room to the Mr. seaver arose and proceeded from his room to the office of the hotel, where he spent nearly an hour in reading the papers. He then went to his room to prepare for breakfast; and shortly after nine o'clock the chambermaid discovered that the man was dead in his room. He lay on the bed, his hands tightly clasped, as though he had died in a spasm. He was about lifty years of age.

## RAILROAD ACCIDENT NEAR RED BANK.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) MATAWAN, N. J., Dec. 19 .- The engine, baggage car and smoker of the Pennsylvania passenger train, which leaves Long Branch at 9:20 a.m., on the Pennsylvania and Reading Railroad, were detained near Red Bank this morning, by a misplaced switch. The last two cars did not leave the track. No one was seriously injured, but the passengers were well shaken up, and several received bruises. The accident occurred at the junction of the New Jersey Southern and Long Branch roads. The biame is thought to rest with the switchman. Traffic was delayed nearly two hours.

## GRAND ARMY FINANCES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] TRENTON, Dec. 19 .- The State officers of the Grand Army of the Republic have issued to the several posts a circular announcing that the receipts at the encampment at "Camp Olden," near Princeton Junetion last year were \$7,213.98, and the receipts \$3,658.04; leaving a deficit of \$355.94, which must be raised by an assessment, which will amount to about sixty-seven cents for each member.

## SUFFOCATED BY COAL GAS.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.) CLEVELAND, Dec. 19 .- Henry Hagedorn, a carpenter, living at No. 57 Brighton-st., his wife and three children were found this morning lying unconscious from the effect of inhaling coal gas, which escaped from the baseburner in their sleeping room. Dr. Humiston was called and did what he could to revive the family to life, party in the House receive so severe a rebuke as the but the mother and one child were dead. Mr. Hagedorn one administered to Mr. Keifer by the Republicans will probably recover. Yesterday Dr. Humiston was

what they supposed was sickness. At that time he told them they were simply suffering from breathing coal gas, and he warned them that unless they made some provision to keep the gas from escaping they would be suffocated. The other children—a boy and girl—are still alive, but their recovery is doubtful. Hagedorn is thirty-five years old. He is an Englishman and has only been in this country a few years.

#### NINE CASES OF TRICHINOSIS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] BLOOMINGTON, Ill. Dec. 18 .- A German named Geoll, his wife and son, and six men boarding with them here, are all ill with trichinosis. They were affected two weeks ago, but the nature of the disease was not known until to-day. They had been eating sausage made of raw pork, from a hog raised by Geoll. Microscopio examination shows that the pork is fairly swarming with the pest. Geoll will die, as will also his son, the other cases are not so severe.

#### ESCAPED FROM JAIL.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.] New-Haven, Dec. 19 .- Albion Small, "Frank" Roberts and Michael Horan, prisoners at the Litchfield County Jail, knocked down a keeper as he was locking the yard gate, and escaped. They are all about seventeen

#### A READJUSTER CONTRACT VIOLATED.

RICHMOND, Dec. 19 .- In the city Circuit Court o-day the case of the Kendall Bank Note Company of New York against the Commonwealth of Virginia, grow. ing out of a contract to print Riddleberger bonds, was heard on pleadings. This suit is for \$30,000 damages for alleged breach of contract, and excites considerable interest, owing to the recent political change in the state. It originated with the Readjuster Board of Sink-Interest, owing to the Recal juster Board of Sinking Fund Commissioners, who first awarded the centract to the Kendail Company and subsequently annuited it. The leading controversy to-day arose on two pleas find by the Attorney-General, the first alleging an expressed, and the second an implied, agreement on the part of the plaintiffs that their bonds would be admitted on the Stock Exchange of New York. The plaintiffs, in reply, denied the expressed agreement and demurred to the plea by way of implication. The Court sustained the demurrer. Two other pleas were made by the defendants, alleging failure by the plaintiffs to deliver the bonds at the time required by the contract. The replication confessed failure to deliver antil two weeks after the stipulated time, but alleged that the Kendail Company was delayed for over a month by reason of having, at the request of the defendants, to engrave new plates, substituting a vignette of Sensier Riddleberser on the face of the bonds for that of General Mahone, after the first plates had been completed. The issue was joined on these pleas, but, owing to the nileged inability of Auditor Alien to be present, the case was continued to January.

\*\*DECISION ON A NOVEL WILL.\*\*

#### DECISION ON A NOVEL WILL.

Baltimore, Dec. 19 .- In the Supreme Court this morning Judge Fisher rendered his opinion in the case of Tagart, executor of the will of the late Zenas Barnum vs. "Frank "Barnum, and others and the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore,

The bill was filed by the executor for a construction of the will of Zenas Barnum, who bequeathed his entire estate to Mr. Tagart in trust, for the benefit of his brother, "Frank" Barnum, but promised that upon his brother becoming a priest or a member of any order or society of the Roman Catholic Church, the estate should of the Roman Catholic Church, the estate samin pass to the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore for the benefit of the McDonough Institute. "Frank" Barmun having became a member of the order of Jesnita, the city claimed the fund for the purposes declared by the testator, but the brothers and slaters of the testator claimed that the devise to the city is void, and that therefore the estate, being undisposed of, descends to the heirs and next of kin. The decree rendered is in favor of the Mayor and City Council for the McDonough Institute.

#### WESTERN UNION DIVIDEND TAX.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 19 .- At the next meeting of the Board of Public Accounts the question of re-opening the account of the Western Union Telegraph made by the company in 1879 and 1881, which they allege were not included in the reports of the company to the State. When called upon to make a report, the company denied that it was taxable. The amount in stion is, for 1879, the sum of \$40,85194, which includes

series of cases growing out of the women's raid on the Wequetequock schoothouse terminated to-lay.

Samuel Stanton and James E. Palmer were charged with party. They testified at the first trial of the women that Burdick had an axe in his hand during the attack on the school house. Burdick was discharged at that trial, and school house. Burdier was discharges at that trial, and then Stanton and Paimer were arrested for perjury. At the trial just closed, Stanton, Palmer and nine others testified that Burdiek had the axe. He swore he did not, and thirteen witnessesse testified that Mrs. Briggs got the axe at Dennison's and not from Burdiek. The justice found Stanton and Palmer guilly of perjury, and bonds in \$1.000 were farnished for their appearance before the Supreme Court.

## OPPOSED TO SECRET SOCIETIES.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19.-In response to en, last evening, attended a meeting in Association Hall to form an Anti-Society League. Addresses were made and committees were appointed to perfect an or-ganization. The delegates met again under the name of the Christian Convention. At the opening there were less than adozen persons present. Officers were chosen and addresses made by J. W. Phelps, of Vermont; Rev. J. P. Stoddard, and President Blanchard of the Lincoln P. Stouchte, and Present Blackhard of the Lindon College, Illinois. The latter said that William H. Seward and I dwin M. Stenton, of Lincoln's Cabinet, were anti-mason, the first of whom was elected in New York dur-ing the anti-mason movement. He spoke of Thaddens Stevens, an anti-mason, who led the House of Represen-tatives, and said the lodge is the evil genius of the United

## BROWN, BONNELL & CO.'S CREDITORS.

Toledo, Dec. 19,-In the case of the Brown, Bonnell & Co. receiversulp in the United States Court claims to the amount of \$1,301,000 have been proved upon the order for sale and general distribution. But rtain creditors procured a confession of judgment for \$540,000, and their attorney went to Cleveland and paid off the original judgment of \$51,000. He thereupon asked off the original lungment of \$51,000. He thereupon asked that the proceedings be discontinued and the receiver discharged. Judge fraxer has announced his decision that the property should be held in trust for all the creditors alike, none of whom would be discriminated against by the judgment creditors in the State courts, and that if they undertook to disturb the property of the company under the judgments obtained at Youngstown, he would credit them.

## TEMPERANCE IN NEW-JERSEY.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19 .- The New-Jersey State Temperance Alliance continued its session at Cam-den this morning. A paper on "Restrictive Temperance Legislation" was read by Charles Rhoads, Rudolphus Kingham delivered an address on "Harmony in Temperance Work," and the Rev. William Boyd read a paper on "The Church and Its Relations 40 Temperance." There was a discussion of the merits of woman's work in the temperance cause, led by Mrs. S. J. Downs.

## MISTAKEN FOR NELLIE COOLEY.

WILKESBARRE, Dec. 19 .- The detectives who went in search of Nellie Cooley last night returned from North Mountain this evening, after a fruitless journey, so far as any knowledge of her whereabouts is concerned. The woman who was seen going toward the mountain rice world who was thought to be the missing girl, proved to be Mary Bowman, who was recently tried for the murder of her child. It is firmly occleved now that Nellie Cooley's body is in the Susquenenna River, which is trozen over, and may never be recovered.

## A MURDERER PLEADS GUILTY.

PLYMOUTH, Mass. Dec. 18 .- Asa B. Baker retracted his plea of not guitty to-day, and pleaded guitty of murder in the second degree. He was sentenced to State prison for life. Last August his wife was found dead in the woods of lifection, pieced by four bullets, her face cut and her head terribly fractured.

## TWO MEN SUFFOCATED BY GAS.

SCRANTON, Penn., Dec. 19 .- John Walsh, age seventeen, of Scranton, and Hiram Ehrgood, age forty, o

# NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1883. THE NEXT LEGISLATURE.

THE SPEAKERSHIP OF THE ASSEMBLY.

MR. LITTLEJOHN'S BAPID INCREASE OF STRENGTH-POSITION OF THE OTHER CANDIDATES. IBY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

ALBANY, Dec. 19 .- That the drift of opinion among politicians which some time ago seemed to indicate the easy election of Titus Sheard, of Herkamer County as Speaker of the next Assembly takes now altogether a different direction, cannot be mistaken. The entrance of Dewitt C. Littlejohn into the canvas, through the vigorous efforts of his friends, has fairly broken the backbone of Mr. Sheard's strength; has reduced Mr. Erwin's support to an insignificant faction and at the same time has confused old half factional distinctions which at one time seemed destined to play part in the contest-such at are the opinions freely expressed here by those who have traversed the State and have encountered the influences at work in Mr. Littlejohn's behalf.

A FREE CONTEST OF THE CANDIDATES. The idea that there has been dictatorial interference in the canvass by the Federal Administration, by Senator Miller, or by ex-Governor Cornell, is conted by every one familiar with the struggle for the Speakership, with the disposition of the majority of the members themselves, with the temper of the people.

Both Mr. Sheard and Mr. Erwin, from present appearances, will be disappointed in their expectations in consequence of Mr. Littlejohn becoming a candidate. The so-cal ed "machine" strength seems likely to gravitate to him rather than to Mr. Erwin, whi e he has also the earnest support of the strongest of the politicians who made Senator Miller's election to the Senate possible. Among these are James J. Belden, of Syracuse, and ex-Speaker Sloan, of Oswego. Mr. Sloan has charge of the Littlejohn canvass and has a reputation for skilfull legislative maneuvring. ESTIMATES OF STRENGTH.

Mr. Roosevelt's canvass has been strong consider ng that it has had no support from the older politicians of the party and has been purely personal, but it has reached apparently its limit. The estimates of several of the candidates themselves, when freed from the bias of personal interest, and modified by considerations which have lately entered the canvass, indicate somewhat roughly a vote of 13 for Mr. Sheard; Mr. Littlejohn, 20; Mr. Roosevelt, 20; Mr. Erwin, 5; Mr. O'Neil, 4; and 10 doubtful. For Mr, Sheadr there are counted Briggs and Noxon of Saratoga, Bovce of Fulton, and Vedder of Schenectady, the solid vote of the Twentieth Congressional District, although Vedder's vote is claimed for Littlejohn, Baker and Westfall of Washington and Locke of Rennselaer; the solid vote of Congressman Burleigh's district, Haskell of Madison, Joyce and Owens of Oncida, Hail of Allegany and Sheemaker of Canandaigna, the latter on personal grounds, although his vote is claimed for Littleichn; and Sheard of Herkimer. For Mr. Roosevett: Olm of Broome, Price of Chantanqua, Van-Duzer of Chemung, Cartwright of Delaware, Clinton of Eric, Hubbell and Garbutt of Monroe, Jones of Senaca, Hawkins of Suffolk, Barager of Tioga, Chap of Putnam; Van Allen, Dayton, Kittle, Howe and Roosevelt of New-York, and the four Kings County members, although Mr. Roosevelt's friends concede that except Heath, they may not vote for him on the first ballot, For Mr. Littlejohn: Kruse and Nash, of Cattarangus County; Priddy and Howland, of Cayinga County; Herton, of Chantanqua: Dean, of Columbia; Kent, of Dutchess; Sipp, of Eric; Boynton, of Essex; Pratt, of Monroe; Geddes and Hendricks, of Onondag, ; Littlejohn and Sweet, of Oswego; Tremper and Hasbrouck, of Ulster; Husterand Otis, of Westchester; Palmer, of Wyoming; and Slibble, of Orleans. For Mr. Erwin; St. Lawrence County members, Scott, of Livingsten, and House, of New-York. For Mr. O'Neil: Hunt and Seeber, of Jefferson, and Locke, of Warren.

Erwin's strength seems already absorbed in Washington and Locke of Rennselaer; the solid vote

ompany defied that it is the sum of \$10,419 cs, of Warren.

Erwin's strength seems already absorbed in the basis of the report of the president of the Verter Union.

The company contests the levy, on the ground that it is that the tax charged is too barse. The company contests the levy, on the ground that it is a fine that it is charged with a tax on its leased lines and tick have already paid the tax, which gives the resting at its too fact the word of the state of the pastion at issue the same features as that of the corporation could not be taxed twice on the same invidend.

A COMPLICATED SQUABBLE.

New London, Dec. 19.—The third of the New London, Dec. 19.—The third

cure Littlejohn's defeat.

The Democratic candidate for Speaker will be "Frank" Rice, of Ontario, who is the choice of the Manning "machine."

## COMING STATE APPOINTMENTS.

ALBANY, Dec. 19 .- Governor Cleveland deided to-day that he would not make any new appoint ment in place of Michael W. Burns, Harbor Master, who died recently, as he did not believe that he had authority under the law of 1883 to do so. In his message it is understood he will call attention to the condition of the Harbor Master and Post Warden Department in New-York City, referring to the fact that those now acting receive no pay whatever, the law explicitly declaring that they are all put out of office. The Attorney-General took the same ground when asked for an opinion on the subject. In the Governor's message also, it is understood be will review the circumstances under which the Emigration Commission Bill was nullfied last winter, paying his complements in a fine shape to the Tammany Senators, and asking that a nominee for Emigration Commissioner be confirmed at an early day. The nominee, it is under stood, will be Mr. Murtha, who was nominated last see

ou. Controller Davenport in his report will show that the Controller Davenport in his report will show that the income from taxes on corporations is much larger than he or his predecesor, James W. Wadsworth, who drew the bilt, had any reason to expect. The corporations who have failed to pay a tax within a year, some hundreds in number, are aiready in the Attorney-General's hands, and when they settle up, their payments will materially increase the amount. Te-day the Controller has sent out final notices to nearly a hundred other delinquents. Attorney-General Russell has not yet decided upon the cases presented to him by the Controller relative to the Western Union tax cases.

# A DOUBLE MURDER IN LOUISIANA.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 19.—A dispatch from Clinton La., to The Times-Democrat says: "'Jim' George a colored man, residing five miles from here, returned home at a late hour last night and found his daughter, age seventeen, dead, and another woman mortally wounded. The latter has since died. The double murder was committed by a man who called at George's house during his absence. He found the women in bed and shot them both. Ed Ell, colored, has been arrested en suspicion."

## THE SENIOR POSTMASTER.

Washington, Dec. 19 .- The Star says: "The ecords of the Post Office Department show that Henry leardsley, of North Lansing, N. Y., is the senior Postmaster in the service. He has held his office since June, 1828, having served all of the time under his original commission. The bondsmen that he gave then have been dead for nearly forty years.

# A HOMOEOPATHIC INSANE ASYLUM.

Boston, Dec. 19 .- Among the recommendans of the Special Committee on Penal and Charitable Institutions, which sat during the legislative recess, is one that an insane asylum be conducted under homeo pathic auspices.

## CUTTING DOWN NAIL PRODUCTION.

afoot to secure the Democratic National Convention for

FOUR MEN DROWNED.

HARVARD DOESN'T WANT TO ROW. PITTSBURG, Dec. 19.-The Western Nail As-Boston, Dec. 19 .- Although no decision has been reached by the Executive Committee of the Harvard Boat Club regarding the challenge of the University sociation decided to close down for a period of six weeks, from Dec. 29. The meeting was one of the largest ever held, every mill West being represented. of Pennsylvania, it is not at all probable that the chal-lenge will be accepted.

## TORN LIMB FROM LIMB.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 19.-James Weaver, age sixty, employed in Hussey, Howe & Co.'s steel works, was caught by the arm in the belting of an engine to-day, and drawn into the machinery. Before he could be extricated he was torn limb from limb, portions of his body being scattered a distance of 100 feet.

#### CALAIS, Me., Dec. 19.—William Wilson, Percy Truesdale, A. Rollins and S. McFarland were drawned last night in St. Andrew's Bay by the capsizing of their LARGE THEFT FROM A PRIVATE HOUSE.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Dec. 19.-Burglars NEW-ORLEANS. Dec. 19.—A dispatch to The Frequence from Baton Rouge says the Democratic Conven-

# MR. THOMPSON UNDER FIRE.

HIS EXTRAVAGANCE AND LOOSE METHODS DENOUNCED.

THE POUGHKEEPSIE INCENDIARY QUINN. POINTED CRITICISMS BY THE COUNCIL OF REFORM -AN ONSLAUGHT BY ORLANDO B. POTTER.

THE TRIBUNE'S exposures of corrupt and loose methods in the Department of Public Works have aroused taxpayers to the necessity of limiting the sums put at Commissioner Thompson's disposal. A committee of the Council of Reform yesterday called the attention of the Board of Estimate to Mr. Thompson's evasions of the law, his letting of contracts on a false basis, and the extravagance of his payments for cleaning public buildings. In the Aqueduct Commission Orlando B. Potter gave the Commissioner a drubbing for his management of schemes to increase the city's water supply, and emphasized the necessity of the use of common, sense in the Department of Public Works.

ARRAINGED BY THE COUNCIL OF REFORM. FACTS AND FIGURES LAID BEFORE THE BOARD OF ESTIMATE.

York, and that he carries letters of recommendations from the president of the club. He seemed to exhibit deep concern as to his surroundings, when he entered the court-room this afternoon, accompanied by his counsel. The room was crowded with listeners. The prisoner is a young man about twenty-eight years old, well-dressed, and wears a mass of black hair and a heavy mustachs. The hotel clerk testifies to Quinn's registering under the name Burbank, and having no baggage; and to going up to stop a row between two drummers playing draw poker in the room next to Quinn's, after 2 o'clock. As he went up he met Quinn, wao turned back and ran. One of the card players met him, and told him there was a fire in Quinn's room. The witness found the door locked and the key gone. He forced the door open and found a fire burning on the bed and under it, which was extinguished by himself and some of the guests who had been alarmed. The bed had not been otherwise disturbed, He remembered that the prisoner came to the hotel last spring in the evening. The night or rather the morning of the fire, he saw Quinn coming down stairs the second time, and heard him say "There is a fire up-stairs, you had better go and put it out," and then Quinn left the hotel.

Charles Mills of the police force testified to seeing Quinn, intoxicated, taking with "Pat "Kelly, on the street at about 1:30 that morning, and following him to the Margan House. At 3 o'clock, when helping to extinguish the fire at the Ponghkeepsie Hotel, he found Quinn there and collared him, until he found where the trouble was.

After the excitement was over, the officer went out to look for Quinn again. He went to the Trelson House and described Quinn's appearance, the cl rk saying that a person answering that description had only a short time before been assigned to room 17 and knocked furiously four or five times but could get no answer. Remembering that Quinn had been intimate with a young man named Larry Murtach, the officer called that name, and knocked again. The offi Edward A. Morrison and a committee from the Council of Reform appeared before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment yesterday and strongly urged the necessity of economy in the making of appropriations for the city departments. They especially criticised the management of the Department of Public Works and Mr. Thompson's loose methods in awarding contracts and giving out work in violation of law. Mr. Morrison ex-pressed the hope that the appropriations would be made on a business basis. All of the departments of the city government, he declared, were extravagantly administered. Among the most extravagant was the Department of Public Works. It had been shown that certain favored contractors were given an opportunity to make large sums. Prominent among these were Richard A. Cunningham, John Barry, who keeps a roadhouse; Field, Hotchkiss & Co., and two coal dealers, Treacy and Collins. These coal contractors had apparently had complete control of the Department. As a specimen, Mr. Morrison said, take the fact, as shown by the records, that within three days they delivered coal to the amount of \$1,900. It was split up into parcels, each amounting to less thau \$1,000, thus evading the law. At the two highservice pumping stations there were delivered, during 1882, 9,880 tons of anthracite coal and 78 tons of cannel coal. The latter was charged for at \$15 per ton, but could have been purchased for \$11. The anthracite coal was also charged for \$11. The anthracite coal was also charged for at an excessive price. Mr. Morrison added:
Owing to the manner of keeping and rendering the accounts of this Department, together with the nature of some of its duties, it is not possible, without a legal process, to analyze most of these accounts, and show the actual operations of the Department and the amount of money it requires. Several items of these accounts, however, can be ascertained from the data at hand, and in every such case there is evidence or a persistent and systematic effort on the part of the management of this Department, to use its discretionary power, and resert to any pretext and device by which the largest amount of money possible can be gotten from the city, without regard to the principles of economy and carefulness, which are the conditions of all successful private business.

COST OF CLEANING PUBLIC BUILDINGS. Up to this morning the general belief was that Schator Sharon would capture the mine. This was strengthened by the known fact that Secretary McCoy, who married Senator Sharon's niece, was going to vote his 1,100 proxics for the Sharon interest. At midday the Nevada Block was surrounded by an eager-crowd anxious to learn the probable result. The voting commenced at 1 p. m. At 230 the vote stood: Fl od, 41.714; Morrow, representing the Sharon interest, 2.537. Mr. Richardson, of the Bank of California, holding Sharon certificates and proxies, appeared and voted 47,105 shares solid. This was offset by W. H. Wright, who cast 1.460 votes for Flood, giving him the victory with 50,922 votes, against Sharon's 48,855.

The State laws call for seven trustees. By mutual agreement four were to be from the winning side. They are C. D. Weller, C. O'Connor, Charles Fish and R. H. Folils. Sharon's trustees are A. K. P. Harmon, Morris Schmidt and J. H. Robinson. E. B. Holmes was elected secretary.

COST OF CLEANING PUBLIC BUILDINGS. Mr. Morrison then spoke of the excessive cost of cleaning the public buildings. He said:

cleaning the public buildings. He said:

For 1884 the Commissioner asked for \$146,000 for supplies and cleaning of public buildings. The cost of these supplies for the last year was \$41,553, a large part of which was grossly excessive. But if the same amount be allowed for the supplies for 1884, the cost of labor and salaries, on this estimate, will be \$104,447. We have ascertained the cost of cleaning several of the large business buildings, also of the public schools of the city for the last year, and herewith submit to your Board a comparative table of these expenditures:
Comparative cost of cleaning the public and certain private buildings of the city of New-York:

oat of Labor and Salaries in 1883. Number of Sq. Ft, of Buildings Cleaned. Salaries per Sq. Ft. for 1884. 2,300 51,300 150,000 243,750 8,431 325,000 | 2 c. 6 m. West ruUnionBuild-2 c., 8 m. 5 c., 5 m. Average, ting.... Trinity i a bling... 58,520 61,423

From this table it appears that the Commissioner of Public Works requires ten times as much per foot to clean the public buildings as the average cost of cleaning the buildings enumerated.

Mayor Edson asked where the figures were obtained. He was assured that they were procured from official sources or by the employment of a city surveyor.

President Asten said that he was willing to act liberally in the matter of cleaning public offices. Many of the women thus engaged had lost hus-bands or sons in the War of the Rebellion, and if this work was taken from them they might become a charge on the county. At the same time, he would not favor extravagance or making the city a sort of asylum for invalids.

#### HOW MR THOMPSON EVADES THE LAW, Resuming, Mr. Morrison said:

Resuming, Mr. Morrison said:

The estimates of the Commissioner of this Department are evidently based on his purpose of continuing his present and passed practice of evading the law requiring the public works to be done by public letting, and of giving them out on private orders, separated in amounts less than \$1,000 each. Such orders to the amount of \$450,000 were given out by this Commissioner in the hast year, and most of them at prices ranging from twenty to fifty per cent above the commercial and contract prices.

For example: this Commissioner gave out private orders to Julius Johnson & Co., in the last year, amounting to \$4,000 for hydrants and their connections, at prices fifty per cent above those pald by the public and other clies for a well-tested and equally good article.

Orders to the amount of \$24,000 were given to R. A. Cunningham to restore pavements after sewer openings, which cost the city at least fifty per cent more than the same work could have been done for by contract under any guarantee that night be asked.

Orders for \$43,000 were given for coal to two other favorites, at prices twenty-five per cent above the market price for the same article. It is surely not too much to ask that your Board refuse to become a participant in this fraud and waste by withholding the means to continue these illegal practices.

The aggregate of the items of this estimate which we have thus analyzed is \$200,000. There are other items, amounting to more than \$2,000,000, of such a nature and so rendered to the public that they cannot be so treated except by an examination of the records of the Department under the authority of law by expert accountants, besides about \$2,000,000, of such a nature and so rendered to the public that they cannot be so treated except by an examination of the records of the form of which the bonds of the city are issued. It is a fair presumption that an offer who has shown himself capable of so disregarding the interests of the city as the excessive estimates we here present show

body omenang. Severa memorator the reachty and a large number of students of the university were present. The following gentlemen acted as pall-bearers: President Ellot, Professors Goodwin, Lovering, Gray, Torrey, Laue and Bowen and Francis. E. Parker. The Interment took place in the college lot in Monut Auburn Cemetery. The result of having public work done in this manner was shown in the repairing of the sewer in West Fifty-sixth-st. This was fully described in THE TRIBUNE on Saturday. There were four orders for SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 19 .- A dispatch from

one piece of work, and the total cost was \$5,365, or \$7 per running foot. There were 47,000 bricks charged for, while a new sewer for that distance would only have required 43,000.

#### AN IRRESISTIBLE CONCLUSION. Mr. Morrison concluded by saying : -

Mr. Morrison concluded by saying:

For ourselves, and in behalf of this long-suffering community, we protest against such a minuse of the public money, and hold that so deliberate an attempt to misload your Board, and obtain an appropriation so obviously and grossly expessive, cannot be characterized by language more appropriate than that used by the Court of Appeals of this state in two decisions just handed down, confirming the vacation of assessments on property in this state in two decisions just handed down, confirming the vacation of assessments on property in this continuity on the issue of trund for contracts, fraudiently given and executed by the Commissioner of Public Works, viz.:

"These facts lead tressitting to the conclusion that there was either fraud or some unexplained irregularity."

Henry N. Seers criticised the working of the Park

Henry N. Seers criticised the working of the Park Department. He said:

Department. He said:

If the Department be allowed what it asks for this year, it will be more than three times the amount that was found to be necessary to maintain precisely the same property, only in a higher degree of excellence, in 1877, it is twenty times per acre more than the average cost of maintaining public parks in all the large clies of this country, and will continue a corpus of engineers and architects who will cost the city at least \$50,000 a year more than there is any necessity for, and the amount allowed in the provisional estimate is more than three-fourths of this excess.

For example, \$50,000 is ssked for maintaining two

# THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION. St. Louis, Dec. 19.-Active measures are

party in the House receive so severe a rebuke as the one administered to Mr. Keifer by the Republicans to-day. For commentary, the mother and one child were dead. Mr. Hagedorn will probably recover. Yesterday Dr. Humiston was called to the same family, being cent for to treat them for out the gas on retiring.